



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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PRIMARY ANALYSIS

Editor's note: Here is Part I of Calpeek's Calif. Primary Election Analysis. Next week one of your favorite columns: *Calpeek's Winners & Losers*...

Primary Election Trends

- **Turnout** - As of Calpeek's deadline, the turnout was about 38% and climbing. It might hit 40% by next week. The percentage of eligible registered voters casting ballots was slightly higher than 1994 (35%), but less than the 42% predicted by SOS Bill Jones. Pollster Mervin Field predicted 40% --- and Calpeek sources put the range at 40-45%...

- **226 Was Labor's Wake Up Call** - There was a very heavy turnout of union members, thanks to Prop. 226, the initiative that was viewed by labor as being its *biggest threat* since 1958, when there was another move by conservatives to curtail labor's clout. Will labor remain "fired up" through the Nov. 3rd election? Our sources say **yes** --- and their chief target in the fall will be Gov. Pete Wilson(R)...

- **Calif.'s 1st Blanket Primary** - We'll have to wait just a bit longer before drawing any firm conclusions, but it appears that in Statewide races, the party favorites all won - so there was very little impact from cross-over voting. In CA Legislative races, there might have been an impact - we're still checking...

- **Initiative Madness** - The initiative still rules in Calif. It's a lousy way to govern, but Calif. voters seem to like it. Except for 227 (we don't count 225 - term limits - because there wasn't a YES or NO campaign), all of the citizen-sponsored initiatives were *defeated*...

- **Experience Vs. Money** - Voters were not looking for candidates who would rock the boat (Al Checchi & Darrell Issa). Instead voters turned to candidates with *familiar names & experience*: Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) and Calif. Treas. Matt Fong(R). Does this mean that millionaires can't win or aren't good candidates? No. It just takes the right combo...

Statewide Results

- ☒ **Governor** - It will be AG Dan Lungren(R) vs. Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) in the fall. The big surprise in this primary is that Davis, with two other well funded and viable Demo challengers, *finished 1st*, some 60,000 votes in front of 2nd place Lungren. With no viable GOP rivals, sources say Lungren should have easily finished ahead of Davis. FYI: L.A. Times exit poll question: should Republicans continue to hold the Governor's office for another 4 years or is it time for a change to the Demos? 64% said *time for a change*...

- ☒ **U.S. Senate** - Sources say incumbent U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D) would have rather faced *deep pocketed* San Diego businessman Darrell Issa(R) than CA Treasurer Matt Fong(R). Fong beat Issa by 132,000+ votes and Fong ought to bow down whenever he goes by Times Mirror Square in L.A. Had it not been for that hit by the L.A. Times on his early business dealings, Issa might have won. Sources have been saying for some time that Issa's campaign was both *erratic & amateurish*. But given the money Issa spent (\$8-10 million), he should have won. One neutral GOP source said Fong's win was nothing but *dumb luck*...

- ☒ **Lt. Governor** - The Nov. 3rd match between State Sen. Tim Leslie(R) and former Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante(D) won't be very exciting, but it's the getting there which counts, especially for Leslie, who batt-

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led cancer and successful businesswoman Noel Irwin-Hentschel(R) to win the GOP nomination. Leslie got **35.9%** of the GOP vote vs. **28.8%** for I-H and **26.0%** for State Sen. Richard Mountjoy(R). Our sources thought I-H's bigger tv buy might make a difference, but that was offset by Leslie's appearance on most all the key GOP slate cards, plus his own tv & radio...

☒ **Attorney General** - This will be another good battle to watch Nov. 3rd. It will feature State Sen. Bill Lockyer(D), with no prosecutorial and very little courtroom experience vs. Dep. Atty. Gen. Dave Stirling(R). Lockyer's early and extensive tv buy crushed Demo rivals State Sen. Chuck Calderon and former Congresswoman Lynn Schenk. Lockyer got **47.2%** of the Demo vote vs. **23.7%** for Calderon and **24.9%** for Schenk. Groups as NWPC were upset with Lockyer because on one slate card his campaign falsely claimed an endorsement by U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein. On the GOP side, Stirling mashed O.C. DA Mike Capizzi among GOP voters, getting **66.5%** to Capizzi's **33.5%**. Stirling won big in the north: in Sacto County, for example, Stirling got 80,000 vs. 31,000 for Capizzi. Sources think the key factor in the GOP battle was ballot title. And it also will be a problem for Lockyer...

☒ **Secretary of State** - Neither incumbent SOS Bill Jones(R) nor Demo Michela Alioto had a primary challenge. Jones got **50.0%** vs. **39.2%** for Alioto...

☒ **Controller** - GOP challenger Ruben Barrales was hoping to keep incumbent Demo Controller Kathleen Connell way under 50%. It didn't happen. Connell got **59.5%** vs. **32.7%** for Barrales...

☒ **Treasurer** - Demo Phil Angelides may have won his primary with **25.4%**, but So. Gate City Treasurer Albert Robles(D) got **17.9%**. In raw numbers, Robles' vote was 868,251. That may be an indication of Latino voters backing a Latino candidate. On the GOP side, **Calpeek** sources were correct: Assemblyman Curt Pringle beat Assemblyman Jan Goldsmith by a margin of **62.3%** vs. **37.7%** among GOP voters. Going into the primary, Goldsmith led in the various polls and had most of the newspaper endorsements. The Nov. 3rd match between Angelides and Pringle will be one of the better *mud wrestling events*...

☒ **Insurance Commissioner** - It will be Insurance

Comm. Chuck Quackenbush(R) vs. Assemblywoman Diane Martinez(D). Even though Demo insurance agent Hal Brown (cousin of Kathleen & Jerry) was better funded, the magic of the Brown name didn't impress voters: Martinez got **57.6%** of the Demo vote...

Initiative Madness

◆ **Prop. 226** - Organized labor finally got its act together and defeated this attempt by conservatives to cut the political clout of unions, who mostly support Demos. YES got **46.4%** vs. NO at **53.6%**. Was money a factor? Absolutely. The NO side spent \$20 million on tv and slates. No telling what the YES side spent because some conservative DC think-tanks (501s) spent a ton of money on generic tv ads early on. The ads weren't very good, but you could sure tell which way they leaned. The real YES on 226 tv push came with only 10 days remaining. The trend was downward by then. But the real story is that YES on 226 made critical errors early on. They started as The Campaign Reform Initiative and then shifted to The Paycheck Protection Initiative. Confusing. No matter how it was named, the key bad guy as far as labor was concerned was Gov. Pete Wilson, who was the chair of YES on 226. With Wilson in such a high profile post in the 226 campaign, the politics of this measure was easy to spot...

◆ **Prop. 227** - YES got **60.8%** vs. **39.2%** for the NO side, but this one size-fits-all solution to CA's bilingual education problem isn't the answer. The problem with traditional bilingual education is there aren't enough qualified teachers. The best solution was SB 6, approved by the Legislature this year, but vetoed by Gov. Wilson...

◆ **Prop. 223** - The so-called 95/5 Initiative, sponsored by UTLA, was defeated by a **54.4%** vs. **45.6%** margin. A very bad initiative which would have screwed rural school districts. Just about every daily newspaper in Calif. opposed 223...

◆ **Prop. 224** - The so-called Competitive Bidding Initiative also was defeated. NO got **61.9%** vs. YES at **38.1%**. Again, newspapers were totally against Prop. 224. Another very bad initiative...

U.S. House Primary Races

☒ **3rd CD** - GOP businessman Doug Ose buried conservative Assemblywoman Barbara Alby by a **51.7% vs. 31.7%** margin among GOP voters to capture the GOP nomination. He'll face Demo water attorney Sandie Dunn in November...

☒ **24th CD** - Incumbent U.S. Rep. Brad Sherman (D) got **54.1%** of the total vote and will face *deep pocketed* businessman Randy Hoffman(R), who got **20.7%** of the vote and spent \$300,000. Sherman spent almost nothing...

☒ **34th CD** - As of deadline time, Demo Assemblywoman Grace Napolitano was leading Jamie Casso(D) by a margin of **37.4% to 36.6%**, with some absentee ballots remaining. Casso is the COS and son-in-law of U.S. Rep. Esteban Torres(D), who is retiring...

☒ **36th CD** - In the 3-way GOP primary in this CD now represented by Demo Jane Harman, the big winner was Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall. He got **22.5%** of the overall vote to beat GOP rivals Susan Brooks with **17.4%** and L.A. Councilman Rudy Svorinich with **16.2%**. Kuykendall now becomes the frontrunner to defeat Demo Janice Hahn in November. Hahn got **30.2%**...

☒ **41st CD** - No shock here as GOP Assemblyman Gary Miller of Diamond Bar ousted incumbent GOP U.S. Rep. Jay Kim, who was convicted of campaign reporting violations last year. Miller got **31.9%** of the total vote to Kim's **17%**...

☒ **42nd CD** - Perennial GOP target U.S. Rep. George Brown(D) got **53.8%** of the total vote in the primary. He will face GOPER Elia Pirozzi Nov. 3rd. Pirozzi got **43.9%** of the Republican vote to just edge out another perennial candidate, GOPER Rob Guzman, who got **42.9%** of the GOP vote...

☒ **46th CD** - It will be Bob Dornan(R) vs. Demo U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez in the highest profile House race in the '98 election cycle. As **Calpeek** sources predicted, Judge James Gray and attorney Lisa Hughes split the anti-Dornan GOP vote. Sanchez got **44.8%** of the total vote vs. **26.1%** for B-1 Bob. Here's a case where cross-over votes might have aided Dornan...

Legislative Contests

☒ **6th SD** - Assemblywoman Deborah Ortiz(D) will face GOPER Chris Quackenbush in the fall. Mrs. Q got **44.9%** of the GOP vote to edge Sacto businessman Mike McCollum, who got **38.3%**...

☒ **10th SD** - Assemblywoman Liz Figueroa(D) beat Assemblyman Mike Sweeney by a **40.5% vs. 30.9%** margin. A big win for Sen. Richard Polanco(D), who gave big bucks to Figueroa...

☒ **20th SD** - The **big upset** of the primary. L.A. Councilman Richard Alarcon(D) clings to a 791 vote lead over former Demo Assembly Leader Richard Katz. Katz led in the early going, but Alarcon won big in Katz's old 39th AD. There are numerous absentee ballots yet to be counted. Another big win for Polanco, who contributed more than \$150,000 to Alarcon. Alarcon went negative on Katz with a heavy mail blitz...

☒ **26th SD** - The winner in this Demo turf battle is Assemblyman Kevin Murray over former Assemblywoman Marguerite Archie-Hudson. Murray won with **48.5%** of the overall vote...

☒ **GOP Trial Lawyers PAC** - *The Conservative Attorneys for Civil Justice*(CACJ) had a long night June 2nd, as some of their key candidates got defeated. Overall, CACJ lost **6 of 11** races. Among the big losers were: 2nd AD - Sheriff Art Brandwood to Shasta Co. Sup. Richard Dickerson; 3rd AD - David Reade to Dr. Sam Aanestad (backed by the CA Dental Assn. PAC); 10th AD - Dr. Alan Nakanishi to SMUD Bd. member Anthony Pescetti; and 73rd AD - Jim Lacy to Patricia Bates. Also losing was 60th AD candidate Mike Radlovic to Walnut Councilman Bob Pacheco; and Myke Shelby to school board member Jean Roesch...

...The CACJ winners were Fresno Councilman Mike Briggs(29th AD); Tony Strickland(37th AD); Peter Repovich(43rd AD); Bob DeMaillie(61st AD); and Duane Admire(76th AD). Briggs, Strickland and DeMaillie are slam dunks for November...

☒ **47th AD** - In this Demo turf battle, Herb Wesson had little trouble defeating Joey Hill to win Kevin Murray's assembly seat. Wesson got **40.4%** vs. **34.1%** for

Hill...

☑ **49th AD** - Community College Trustee Gloria Romero got **35%** of the overall vote to win a tough primary with Monterey Park Councilwoman Judy Chu, who got **27.2%**. It's Demo turf - GOPers need not apply...

☑ **53rd AD** - It looked as though this Demo primary for Debra Bowen's assembly seat might rate a toss up. But Torrance Councilman George Nakano(D) made it look easy. He got **42.4%** of the Demo vote to beat 7 other Demos. He'll face GOPER Bill Eggers this fall...

☑ **67th AD** - His trial on campaign reporting violations starts in the fall, but that didn't stop incumbent Scott Baugh from swamping 5 other GOPers, including Doris Allen. Baugh won the primary with **41.6%** of the GOP vote. Allen was 2nd with **15.7%**. This race was like the 46th CD - the anti-Baugh forces split the vote...

☑ **68th AD** - This was one of the nastiest races in recent memory. The Orange Co. GOP Central Cmt. censored the John Kellogg for Assembly Cmt. and its consultant, Chris Jones, for repeated ethics violations. The Kellogg campaign twice smeared GOP opponent Ken Mattox with an old charge not even related to Mattox, but to a GOP vendor. Unnecessary and Mattox won. Mattox got **23.7%** vs. **16.2%** for Kellogg. This was for Curt Pringle's seat...

Local Contests

◆ **Oakland Mayor's Race** - Former Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown(I) is the new mayor of Oakland. He got **58.7%** of the vote, thus no runoff. His nearest rival was urban planner Ed Blakely, who got **14.9%**...

● **San Diego's Convention Center - Prop. A** to expand San Diego's existing convention center by 900,000 sq. feet was approved on a **62%** vs. **38%** vote...

◆ **de Young Museum Bond Defeated - Measure A** for a \$89.9 million bond to completely rebuild the de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park lost. It got **64%**, but needed a 2/3rds vote...

● **San Jose Mayor's Race** - A Nov. 3rd runoff between San Jose Councilwoman Pat Dando (**37.9%**) and former County Sup. Ron Gonzales (**45.9%**)...

◆ **San Diego County** - County Supes Bill Horn and Ron Roberts were reelected to the Bd. of Supes...

County Sheriffs' Races

...**25** of 57 Calif. County Sheriffs up for reelection did not have opponents. Among those reelected were San Diego's Bill Kolender; Riverside's Larry Smith; San Berdu's Gary Penrod; San Mateo's Don Horsley; Stanislaus's Les Weidman. Newly elected Sheriffs include Marshal Mike Carona with **53%** over Santa Ana PD Chief Paul Walters (**47%**) in Orange Co. And in Sacto, Undersheriff Lou Blannas won with **61%**...

■ **Incumbents Defeated** - Yuba Co. Sheriff Gary Tindel was defeated by DA criminal investigator Virginia Black, 53, who spent 18 years in the sheriff's department. She's the 1st elected woman sheriff. Also defeated was Glenn Co. Sheriff Kevin Donnelley. He was defeated by Willows PD chief Robert Shaley. In Nevada Co., Sheriff Troy Arbaugh got only **40%** and was defeated by Keith Royal. And it looks as though Monterey Co. Sheriff Norm Hicks might lose. He has **48.9%** vs. **51%** for investigator Gordon Sonne...

■ **Open Seat Runoffs** - In Butte Co. there is a runoff between Asst. Sheriff Perry Renniff and Sgt. Scott MacKenzie. In Santa Clara Co., it's a Nov. 3rd battle between Laurie Smith and Ruben Diaz...

...The **biggest runoff battle** will be in L.A. Co. between incumbent Sheriff Sherman Block, seeking a 5th term, and Sheriff's Chief Lee Baca. Block got **35.98%** vs. **32.28%** for Baca. The guy who was endorsed by the *L.A. Times*, former Chief Bill Baker, got **19.97%**. Stay tuned...

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